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SUBJECT: SALT AT CURRENT GA

REF: STATE 203972

1. SUMMARY. WE HAVE INFORMED BOTH SOVIETS AND SECRETARIAT THAT WHILE WE ARE MOST UNHAPPY ABOUT MEXICAN TABLING OF SALT DOCUMENTS WE ARE NOT INTERPOSING FORMAL OBJECTION. SOVS ARE TAKING SIMILAR POSITION. NON-ALIGNED HAVE WORKED OUT DRAFT RES ON SALT WHICH APPEALS TO USSR AND US TO EXPEDITE FURTHER AGREEMENT INCLUDING "IMPORTANT QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS AND SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS OF OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPON SYSTEMS" AND WHICH "INVITES THOSE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO KEEP THE GA INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF THEIR NEGOTIATIONS." (FULL TEXT SENT SEPIEL). IT IS EXPECTED THAT RES WILL BE TABLED SHORTLY, CO-SPONSORED BY TWELVE NON-ALIGNED CCD DELS. SOV DEL IS UNHAPPY WITH RES AND HAS STATED PERSONAL OPINION THAT ABSTENTION IS BEST COURSE. END SUMMARY.

2. TABLING OF SALT DOCUMENTS BY MEXICO. AMB MARTIN ON NOV 9 INFORMED AMB ROSCHIN (USSR), AND SUBSEQUENTLY UN SECRETARIAT, THAT WHILE WE WERE MOST UNHAPPY AT PROSPECT

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OF SALT DOCUMENTS BEING TABLED BY MEXICO, WE WERE NOT INTERPOSING FORMAL OBJECTION. AMB ROSHCIN SAID THAT HE WOULD "FOLLOW AMB MARTIN" IN TAKING SAME LINE WITH SECRETARIAT. SOVS ARE NOT ONLY UNHAPPY BUT SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED PARTICULARLY SINCE, TO QUOTE SHUSTOV, "WE HAVE NOT EVEN PUBLISHED THE THIRD DOCUMENT (THE PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT) IN OUR OWN COUNTRY." HOWEVER, SOVIETS APPEAR TO HAVE REACHED SAME CONCLUSION WE DID THAT A FIGHT OVER THIS MATTER WOULD NOT BE A WINNING PROPOSITION, AND COULD ONLY MAKE SITUATION WORSE.

3. NON-ALIGNED RES ON SALT. WE HAVE OBTAINED FROM SEVERAL NON-ALIGNED DELS TEXT OF RES ON SALT AS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION IN GROUP OF TWELVE CCD NON-ALIGNED DELS. ACCORDING TO SIRRY (EGYPT) AND ECKERBERG (SWEDEN) RES WILL PROBABLY BE TABLED LATE NOV 10 OR EARLY NEXT WEEK AND THEY EXPECT IT WILL BE CO-SPONSORED BY ALL TWELVE DELS. SIRRY REPORTS THAT GUERREIRO (BRAZIL) HAS BEEN MODERATING INFLUENCE TO MAKE RES LESS EXTREME FROM ONE PROPOSED BY MEXICO. IN PARTICULAR, INITIAL MEXICAN DRAFT APPARENTLY CONTAINED LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD HAVE HAD GA ASK IN EFFECT FOR PERIODIC REPORTS ON SALT II. CURRENT DRAFT, HOWEVER, AS A RESULT OF BRAZILIAN SUGGESTION, ONLY INVITES US AND USSR TO KEEP THE GA "INFORMED OF THE RESULTS" OF THEIR NEGOTIATIONS.

4. INITIAL REACTIONS OF SOV DEL. SHUSTOV (USSR) APPROACHED NEIDLE (US) TO ASK WHAT WE THOUGHT OF NON-ALIGNED DRAFT. NEIDLE SAID WE DID NOT, OF COURSE, HAVE INSTRUCTIONS, BUT HE PERSONALLY ASSUMED US WOULD ABSTAIN ON ANY NON-ALIGNED SALT RES, RECALLING THAT US HAD ABSTAINED ON EARLIER GA RESES ON SALT. SHUSTOV SAID THAT HE DID NOT LIKE NON-ALIGNED DRAFT BECAUSE IT WOULD PUT GA IN POSITION OF JUDGING RESULTS OF SALT. FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD GA HAVE RIGHT TO ASSESS LATER WHETHER US AND USSR HAD AGREED ON "SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS?" SHUSTOV SEEMED SOMEWHAT DISGUSTED WITH SITUATION AND SAID "WE DON'T NEED ADVICE FROM GA ON HOW TO NEGOTIATE SALT." HE ALSO TOOK EXCEPTION TO LAST PARAGRAPH OF NON-ALIGNED DRAFT WHICH ASKS US TO KEEP GA INFORMED OF RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. (SHUSTOV SAID HE PERSONALLY SUPPORTED BOBBY FISHCHER'S POSITION THAT THERE

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SHOULD BE NO SPECTATORS AT A SERIOUS CHESS MATCH.) SHUSTOV
THEREFORE THOUGHT AN ABSTENTION WAS THE PROPER COURSE.
NEIDLE REMINDED SHUSTOV THAT IN 1970 THEY HAD HAD VERY
SIMILAR CONVERSATION ABOUT RES 2661 A (XXV) REGARDING SALT,
BUT IN THE END, THE USSR HAD DECIDED TO VOTE FOR THE RES
WHILE THE US, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS, HAD
ABSTAINED. SHUSTOV SAID HE RECALLED THAT THAT WAS CORRECT,
AND THAT WAS WHY HE WAS EXPRESSING HIS VIEWS ON A TENTATIVE
AND PERSONAL BASIS. GDSBUSH

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